



IDAHO CROP WEATHER



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Thunderstorms Bring Cooler Weather

Agricultural Summary

After two weeks of scorching, dry weather, scattered thunderstorms moved through Southern Idaho, cooling temperatures to near normal levels. Heavy downpours, totalling more than 2 inches in some localities, were recorded in Eastern Idaho. County Extension Educators also reported hail damage in Eastern Idaho, especially to crops in the Pleasant Valley near American Falls. Affected acreages are unavailable, but potatoes, sugarbeets, field corn, and small grains were damaged. Lightning strikes set several fires in Southwestern Idaho where precipitation totals were not as great. For the week ending July 28, major agricultural activities included irrigating, applying pesticides, baling alfalfa, roguing sugarbeets, and harvesting winter wheat.

Field Crop Report

While rains moved through Southern Idaho, most of North Idaho was dry last week, stressing spring planted grains on the Camas Prairie. Cooler weather and rains during the past week helped dryland grain conditions in Caribou and Teton Counties. Combines were harvesting winter wheat fields in the Treasure Valley and the lower elevations near Lewiston. In the Magic Valley, most dry beans were nearly in the bloom stage, and potato producers sprayed some of their fields for Colorado potato beetle. Bannock, Franklin, and Oneida County farmers were trying to minimize damage from western yellowstriped army worms by cutting alfalfa fields early or spraying insecticides. After a long absence, Common Loose Smut has returned to Fremont County, showing up in two barley varieties.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Topsoil moisture was reported to be 17% very short, 45% short, and 38% adequate. Statewide, Idaho farmers had an average of 6.8 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Fires remained a major threat to grazing allotments in Southwestern and Southcentral Idaho. Range conditions in North Idaho were beginning to deteriorate due to dry weather.

Crop Progress Table

Percentages	2002	2001	Avg.
Potatoes Closing Middles	97	89	87
Winter Wheat Turning Color	97	89	89
Spring Wheat Turning Color	58	56	60
Barley Turning Color	65	61	55
Oats Harvested for Grain	0	3	3
Dry Peas Harvested	10	51	22
Peaches Harvested	3	7	10
Mint Harvested (1 st Cutting)	16	19	22

Condition Table

Percentages	Very				
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Potatoes	1	1	11	65	22
Winter Wheat	0	2	27	61	10
Spring Wheat	1	6	21	58	14
Barley	1	4	21	66	8
Irr. Water Supply	6	22	30	42	0
Range and Pasture	2	17	42	39	0

Crop Progress District Table

Crop	North			Southwest			South-Central			East			State		
	2002	2001	Avg	2002	2001	Avg	2002	2001	Avg	2002	2001	Avg	2002	2001	Avg
Winter Wheat Harvested	7	25	11	24	37	21	3	20	14	2	11	6	6	21	11
Spring Wheat Harvested	1	0	1	7	14	5	1	2	2	0	2	1	1	2	1
Barley Harvested	0	1	2	7	20	13	3	1	6	0	1	1	1	2	3
Alfalfa Hay 2 nd Cutting Harvested	4	18	13	99	100	91	84	85	80	28	38	32	57	63	57
3 rd Cutting Harvested	NA	NA	NA	0	5	10	0	7	5	0	1	1	0	4	4

Avg (1997-2001); NA = Very Small Percentage of Acreage in District.

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Weather Data For The Week Ending Sunday, July 28, 2002 ^{1/}

Station	Temperature ^{2/}				Growing Degree Days ^{4/}			Precipitation (Inches)				
	High	Low	Ave.	Dept. ^{3/}	40 Base	50 Base To Date	Normal	Total	Dept ^{3/}	Month of July	March 1 To Date	Normal
North												
Coeur D'Alene	93	57	75	6	2091	1088	994	0.00	-0.30	0.06	6.07	10.02
Grangeville	96	52	73	5	2070	1093	744	0.10	-0.05	0.39	7.68	12.26
Lewiston	102	60	80	4	2787	1581	1473	0.02	-0.09	0.12	4.76	5.38
Sand Point	90	52	72	6	1946	961	798	0.04	-0.15	0.69	8.48	10.99
Southwest												
Boise	99	56	78	3	3036	1820	1397	0.02	-0.04	0.09	2.32	4.71
Caldwell	99	54	75	-2	2938	1716	1640	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.97	3.88
Emmett	100	55	76	2	2770	1572	1427	0.00	-0.03	0.11	2.75	4.59
Mountain Home	104	57	82	6	2882	1727	1377	0.06	-0.01	0.25	1.72	3.81
Parma 5/	102	58	--	--	2938	1714	1357	0.02	-0.03	0.15	1.72	4.23
Weiser	100	57	80	6	3085	1844	1384	0.00	-0.04	0.14	2.28	3.97
Southcentral												
Buhl 5/	--	--	--	--	2514	1359	1101	0.00	-0.08	0.00	1.66	3.95
Burley	95	53	72	0	2402	1294	1078	0.02	-0.08	0.32	2.75	4.11
Hill City	92	43	67	1	1782	955	674	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.78	4.60
Hagerman 5/	100	54	--	--	2888	1677	1562	0.00	-0.04	0.02	1.72	3.54
Malta	100	48	73	4	2350	1260	1047	0.75	0.49	0.82	2.94	4.56
Twin Falls	95	51	72	2	2421	1325	1016	0.01	-0.07	0.09	3.26	4.26
East												
Aberdeen	97	43	69	1	2078	1114	884	0.47	0.29	0.47	2.11	4.19
Grace	97	42	70	3	2065	1127	745	0.56	0.32	0.87	5.37	7.02
Idaho Falls	94	40	67	-3	2034	1054	934	0.04	-0.12	0.09	2.97	4.99
Malad City	101	49	75	5	2425	1379	1002	0.19	-0.15	0.19	1.40	6.54
Pocatello	98	44	70	-2	2331	1264	1057	0.14	-0.06	0.36	4.04	5.38
Rexburg	92	42	68	0	1959	1016	838	0.02	-0.25	0.02	1.83	6.51
Salmon	90	45	70	1	2108	1103	951	0.13	0.07	0.28	1.34	5.23

1/ Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data is quality controlled by the National Climate Center the accumulated growing degree days and precipitation values are updated. 2/-- indicate missing or incomplete data. 3/ Departure from normal. 4/ Totals from March 1. Growing degree days are estimated from neighboring sites for stations with missing or incomplete data. 5/ Precipitation totals are only for days reports were received, no estimates were made for missing data.

Daily High/Low Four Inch Soil Temperatures

Station	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday		Average ^{1/}	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Buhl	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Emmett	92	80	89	81	92	82	93	82	93	82	92	81	87	77	91	81
Parma	74	72	73	71	73	72	74	72	--	--	--	--	--	--	74	72
Sandpoint	82	68	82	70	82	70	84	71	--	--	79	70	78	68	81	70
Twin Falls	83	68	78	67	83	68	87	73	82	62	76	63	76	59	81	66

1/ Averages are only for days reports were received. -- Missing or Incomplete Data.

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